★ EDUCATION ★ ORGANIZATION ★ EMANCIPATION

Industrial Worker

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

VOL. 65 — No. 5 — W.H. 1262 MAY 1968 10 Cts.

LEFT SIDE

"In the halls of Congress Negro live are too cheap to justify resolute measures; it is easier to speculate in blood and do nothing."

The statement was Martin Luther King's. It appeared in his April circular letter in which he asked support for what he called "a last chance project to arouse the American conscience toward constructive democratic change." In it he said, "We intend to channelize the smouldering rage of the Negro and white poor in an effective militant movement in Washington and elsewhere."

As it turned out, that "elsewhere" included Memphis, Tenn. where the "rage of the poor," backed by union organization, was directed toward the winning of a strike of city garbage collectors whose chief demands were recognition of their union and a modest increase in wages. This was an engagement on the economic front of the class war. Dr. King was there to make speeches and to lead a demonstration in the strikers' behalf, if necessary in defiance of an injuction.

Only minutes before a sniper's bullet killed him, King had asked, "Why has the community been able to get together and stand behind the sanitation workers?"

A Memphis preacher, with whom he was going out to dinner, replied: "The people in the lower economic group, they just decided to stick together."

"That's wonderful," Martin Luther King said. And those words were among the last of this remarkable man.

* * *

Five years ago, in April 1963, King wrote a reply to eight Alabama preachers who in a published statement had criticized his activities in the great Birmingham fight for the right of free speech and assembly. King, along with many other freedom fighters was in jail. His critics, of course, were on the outside, telling him that his actions were "unwise and untimely."

King's defense of nonviolent direct action was good, his argument on the necessity of civil disobedience, considering that he was a preacher and that he was addresing himself to preachers, Christian and Jewish, was a masterpiece of logic and eloquence.

He quoted Ghandi, Augustine, Aquinas and the testaments in proof of his contention that man in his drive toward a better world is duty bound to violate unjust laws. While the wisdom of these "authorities" may have weight only with theologians, these words of King's make sense to everyone:

"We should never forget that everything Adolf Hitler did in Germany was legal and that everything the freedom fighters

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

CHICAGO BIDS FOR LEAD SPOT IN "BIG BUST"



¡THIS WAR IS NOT FOR WORKERS!

THIS WAR IS NOT . . . . . ku

Professors and preachers, students and teachers, those wo are best informed about this war tell us:

It is built on lies
It is not needed
It undermines the future of mankind.

They are right. A few labor leaders have joined the protest. But unionminded workers should do something more basic. We should take action — union action — to stop this war and all the other wars now being hatched.

War does workers no good. Profits rise faster than wages. Resources needed for people get used for destruction. It is our sons and neighbors and brothers who get maimed and killed.

The union idea is straight and clear: We unite to stop others from using us against each other.

Unless workers can be used against each other, there can be no war.

We resist being used against each other in the same shop or industry. In this world market we should not let ourselves, even across oceans, be used to undermine each other's wage demands. Neither should we let national governments use us to bomb each other's homes or to slaughter each other's children.

Unionism grows. We replaced craft unions with industrial unions to stop the use of one craft against another. By industry-wide bargaining we stop corporations from pitting the workers in one plant against the workers in another. By an understanding among workers the world over we can make war impossible—and assure the best use of the earth's resources for a world of free men.

It is not sufficient just to wish for peace, or to vote for a promising man and hope he lives up to his promises. An organized working class can do things for itself that no man can do for us. It requires a determined effort against all the devices of those who would divide and rule us to build a world-wide organization of the working class. We ask you to help us build it.

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD
2422 North Halted Street, Chicago, Illinois 60614

Heart of Proletarian America, City is Run By Its Fat Parasites

By CHUCK DOEHRER

If America is on the eve of the Big Bust-and many thoughtful people believe that it is-then you can be assured that an incident in Chicago, planned and carefully choreographed, will be the Reichstag Fire that triggers the repression.

There have already been forewarnings.

It was evident, for example, that Chicago, city of the Haymarket Bust (May 4, 1886), would be a scene of major conflict when it was announced that the Democratic national convention would be held here.

Of all the cities in the nation, Chicago, industrial, proletarian heart of America, a city socially trisected by angry black ghettos. sneering white racist neighborhoods, and militantly anti-war intellectual islands, was the worst possible choice.

To put the convention here . . . to suggest that this would be the place where a deeply despised president would be renominated. . . this can only be regarded as an act of calculated provocation.

From that moment, the eyes of America were focused upon Chicago.

Mayor Richard J. Daley must certainly have been thinking of this when he told the city council, Dec. 27th, "No one is going to take over this city. No one will take over a single street or a political convention, now or next summer."

The Mayor has long recognized the city, particularly this city, as the point of social power in America.

One of the steps his police had

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

APRIL 27TH PEACE MARCH IN CHICAGO

This thing Saturday was the most horrible orgy of police violence I have ever seen. And it was repeated yesterday at Columbia University in New York. I truly believe we are right now in a pre—fascist period, in which repression of protest and dissent is going to rapidly escalate. But I expect that the repression is also going to escalate the membership of all left groups, including the IWW.— Virgil Vogel.

WAGE-PRICE SYSTEM

That National Geographic TV special, April 16, on the Portuguese fishermen showed that after living for six months on codfish when they brought their catch ashore neither they nor their families could afford to buy any of it.

Anti-War Posters

Three anti-War posters, done by Carlos Cortez and authorized by the IWW General Executive Board may be purchased for $1.00 each. Two are now available, the third will be ready later. The posters are 17 x 20 inches.

Place For Every Worker

Wheter you work with a pick or with an analytical balance; whether you figure with a carpenter's square or with a slide rule; whether you earn your wage putting bricks together or putting words together—you belong to the working class and should hold a card in the One Big Union.

In this election year young squirts are asking a ridle: "Why is it no use to send a telegram to Washington? Answer: "He's dead."

"An Injury to One Is an Injury to All" ● *One Union* *One Label* *One Enemy*

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Meany: Faker, Traitor

Except that George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, is alleged to be a top representative of labor in the U. U., be probably should not be considered any worse a man than other outspoken supporters of the war in Vietnam, those who openly represent the interests of bankers and the military-industrial complex of the nation.

But Meany does pretend to speak for organized labor, he is still widely accepted as a spokesman of labor, he holds an office given him by labor and he draws his pay from labor. All this puts him, along with a few other labor misleaders, in a special class of scoundrel, the kind of scoundrel that betrays the cause he is paid to defend.

Meany acknowledges that he knows about the "crisis of the cities." It may be assumed he knows something about the distress of the poor generally, and about the sloppy economic housekeeping that is a monument of shame in this richest of all nations. Yet he continues to support policies that demand more and more labor, and other resources, be taken from useful production and applied instead to feeding a war with men and materials.

No one need be surprised if this supposed-to-be supporter of labor comes out openly in defense of employers' and politicians' demand for moratorium on "excessive" wage raises to restrain the normal growth of demand for consumer goods. Whether he goes this far or not is not really important. His defense of the war makers is already enough to justify those who add the word "traitor" to his previously well-deserved moniker, "labor faker." How much longer will the brothers of the AFL-CIO tolerate him?

Left Side...

CONTINUED FRON PAGE 1

did in Hungary was illegal. It was "illegal" to aid and Comfort a Jew in Hitler's Germany. Even so, I am sure that, had I lived in Germany at the time, I would have aided and comforted my Jewish brothers. If today I lived in a Communist country . . . . I would openly advocate disobeying that country's antireligious laws."

* * *

King did not especially emphasize the class struggle, but he did not fail to note that "a few middle-class Negroes who, because of a degree of academic security, and because in some ways they profit by segregation, have become insensitive to the problems of the messes." And he gave middle class white liberals plenty of hell because they decried his direct action views and because of their shallow "understanding" and timidity.

Had King himself been a wage worker, instead of a third generation preacher, he could have contributed much to the building of the great new labor movement in which all workers, regardless of color or nationality will be united.

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN L. KING

Martin Luther King received criticism from friends and foes alike including the hosts of politicians who saw to it that they were televised all over the nation at his funeral.

Among the left there were things said for and against the brand of action he represented according to the particular ideological bias of who was the critic. But even before a sniper's bullet brought a termination to his existence as a mortal man, and insured his immortality among the hosts of dissenting martyrs, it was well established that he was a man who had the courage of his convictions. He had long been the target of any racist fanatic who might come along and he never advocated action that he himself would not take part in.

There have been many instances in the history of men's struggles where one person, thru his action in the forefront, emerges more or less as a personification of a movement and where, instead of the person being identified with the movement, the movement becomes indentified with the person.

Because of an improper use of language, these persons are invariably refered to as leaders with the attendant connotation that their movement could not have existed without them. Too often sight is lost of the fact that it takes masses of people to make movements and "leaders" and the manipulators of mass opinion do all in their power to help in losing sight of that fact. Were it not for huge segments of the world's populace rising from time to time throughout history names like Sparticus, Jesus, Gallileo, Hillstrom, Zapata, Gandhi and King would never have had given cause to be remembered beyond the mortal span of their own immediate families and friends.

In the days following the assassination our ears were bombarded with all sorts of maudlin and hypocritical eulogies to Martin Luther King along with the oft repeated lament that there is no one who can possibly take his place. Such statements as that are not only a disservice but also an insult to the man's memory.

If one can correctly surmise a man's character by his actions, King not only felt that he could be replaced but fervently hoped that his replacement would go on to accomplish things that he never dreamed of. In all respect to the fallen man, it was not he who made the Southern Negro Movement but the Southern Negro Movement that made him. As the awareness of the people he associated himself with increased, so did his own militancy and social outlook become more closely related to the basic ills of our society.

While his initial concern was the bringing of a vast minority segment into the social mainstream of American life, this concern soon became related with other ills of the capitalist system and Martin Luther King identified himself with the anti-war movement and at the time of his death was involving himself with an economic labor struggle.

This last involvement cost him his life and it cannot be looked upon as mere unfortunate coincidence that he should have finally been dry—gulched when he was beginning to mess around with economic labor action with an inevitable effect on the future of the Negro movement. That is beyond a doubt why, despite the increased vigilance of the Memphis police in those days, a sniper was not only able to kill him but make a clean getaway.

Our word of tribute to Dr. King is that it is possible to kill men but never ideas!

Carlos Cortez.

Joseph Zsurzsa

Fellow Worker Joseph Zsurzsa passed away March 30 in the William Beaumont Hospital at Royal Oaks, Mich. His son Joseph wrote the Industrial Worker:

"While dad was living he belonged to the Detroit Memorial Society. Through this organization he donated his body to Wayne State University and asked that later his as hes be placed on the grave of his wife who preceded him in death . . .

"Dad was born in Hungary, February 6, 1880. His surviving children are Betty, Irene and myself."

Fellow Worker Zsurzsa lived a long life. We of the IWW who knew him well knew it was a good life filled with outstanding service in many struggles for the betterment of mankind, particularly in struggles for improvement of the lot of the poor and oppressed. We regret that he is gone, but we remember that he had more years than are granted to most men to give to the cause to which he was devoted. There is consolation for loss in the thought that here was another man of our kind and class who retained, even in old age, the conviction that the greatest joy in life is to render service in a common cause.

Eero Perkio

Port Arthur, Ont.— I regret to tell you that Eero Perkio, longtime reader of the Industrial Worker and member of the IWW, always in good standing, dropped out this spring. He passed away a short time ago at his home in Soo, Ontario. We miss him here.- Alex Murto, Canadian Adm. Secretary.

RATS STILL FLOURISH

Professional scabbing hasn't departed from the industrial scene in the U. S. International Typographical Union reported 60 professional male and female rats were identified on the scab crew of the struck L. A. Herald—Examiner

Ammon Henacy

Says:

The landlord is bulldozing the Joe Hill House (in Salt Lake City.) This is the fourth place we have had in seven years. We will not try to find another place. Some students at the University plan to rent a place and call it the Joe Hill House where they can have meetings.

We are leaving May 1 on a speaking trip. Will speak in Chicago at Unity Unitarian Church, 650 W. Barry, 8 p. m., May. 29.

WHITE SAM'S BURDEN

We who would protect the poor from the oppressions of a capitalist society must be prepared to live dangerously. The late Martin Luther King was a victim of that society. His assassin was only its unconscious instrument.

His Negroes are useful to the dominant whites, in that they occupy the place at the bottom of the social scale which would otherwise be filled by Caucasians. A slave race, a lower class, color-stamped, ready-made for exploitation by Yankee-Americans, that is what we have here in America today.

Kipling's white man's burden was all around the world, but Uncle Sam's is right here at home, where it was landed three centuries ago. It was a valued import then.

Oh, the thing was well enough done. We have the best part of a continent in our hands, we are the most powerful nation in the world, we win wars (Vietnam?).

We are a proud people, purse-proud, patriot-proud. Caucasian-proud, you know.

It is a very serious matter that we have among us a lot of distressfully discontented people who, both white and black, are in need of a great deal more democracy and equality than are presently at hand. It should not be necessary for poverty-stricken citizens of this rich country to take to the streets in disorderly demonstrations to force redress for grievous wrongs. It is not a good way to win either democracy or equality, but must be recognized as the measure of a people's desperation.

Ours is a democracy that could hardly be identified as such by Socrates of old Athens. Who here is privileged to vote for a candidate of his own selection, or legislation of his own devising? And who has equality in all this land? Only the penniless poor. They are sadly equal with one another. It is the equality of the grave.

J. F. McDaniels.

Ry Craft Unions To Amalgamate

To Amalgamate

Unification of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, Conductors, Firemen and the Switchmen's unions is definitely in the works. Agreements have been reached. Next scheduled step is a meeting of a committee of 40 men, ten from each of the four unions, early in May. Following this, it is expected the unification proposal will be voted on by the membership.

REBEL AT 91

"Keep your nose clean and do as the Romans do" is not for Ethel Cazier, age 91, of Chicago

Evicted from her home in Chicago in March, she accepted an offer of a home in Florida by a rich Cuban lady refugee doctor and her retired Air Force officer husband. She soon took off again.

Miss Cazier loved the Miami climate and she was satisfied with the house but she couldn't stomach the ideas of her hosts and the company they kept. She couldn't endure association with friends of former Cuban dictator Batista, especially the rich ones who came to visit and talked about another invasion of Cuba by the U. S. And she was completely at odds with her military—minded host who declared "we've had too much freedom in this country for too long," and who proceeded to outline (to a reporter) what he would do about rioters and protesters.

Miss Croziers is among the growing number of common people who, though poor, will not sell out for bread; and who, given a chance, will speak up for their kind and their class, no matter what the consequences.

Preamble

• THE WORKING CLASS and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centering of management of the industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, Abolition of the wage system."

• IT IS THE HISTORIC MISSION OF THE WORKING CLASS to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

BRANCH MEETINGS

HOUSTON, Texas. — Robert (Blackie) Vaughan is the acting Secretary of the Houston I.U. 510 branch. All communications intended for the branch should be addressed to him at 7505 Navigation Blvd., Houston, Tex. 77011.

* * *

NEW YORK CITY: Call Bill Goring for delegate service and information. Telephone 749-6465.

* * *

SAN FRANCISCO: IWW Delegate No. 11-GO-68 can be reached at 3841 24th Street.

* * *

CHICAGO branch general membership meetings are now being held on the first Friday of the month at 2422 N. Halsted Street. W. H. Westman, Secretary.

* * *

YAKIMA, Wash. — For information about work and organization opportunities in the fruit and farm areas of Eastern Washington, get in touch with George C. Underwood, 102 South 3rd Ave., telephone GLencourt 3-2046.

* * *

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — IWW Stationary Delegate, P.O. Box 46583, Los Angeles; or call Dorice McDaniels, phone number: OR 7-8397.

* * *

VANCOUVER, B.C. — Stationary Delegates J. B. McAndrew, 1896 I Ave., basement apartment; phone 738-7864.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—For information write to Jarama Jahn, P.O. Box 17161, Zip No. 19105; or Phone MA 7-1896.

TOPEKA, Kansas — Call John Weismiller for information about the IWW. Phone 234-9043. Or write him. Address is 802 West 12th, Apt. No. 5, Topeka, Zip 66612.

IMMIGRATION

Back in 1929, Clarence Darrow asked this question:

"Are you going to have less because somebody else comes here to work? If you do, something is wrong with distribution, isn't it?"

A CALL TO IDEALISTS

By EUGENE NELSON

The men and women who feed America themselves do not have enough to eat. I can't think of a greater injustice or irony in the absurd, immoral, perverse, diseased and dying economic system called capitalism.

All Wobblies and Wobbly sympathizers who wish to take a step toward changing that unthinkable state of affairs will be in Yakima this summer for the IWW's organizing drive in the fruit harvest. That is, all Wobblies who aren't Wobblies in name only, and who are endowed with those qualities of brotherly love, justice, courage and idealism which motivated the thousands of IWW's who once traveled from one end of the nation to the other by foot or freight train at the word of a Wobbly fight.

I believe future historians will say the year 1968 is when the struggle between capitalists and anti-capitalits reached its turning point; world events show that now capitalism is irrevocably on the downward path. It is the duty of every man who wants a better world both to hasten its demise as rapidly as possible and to establish the pattern of a superior society, comprising the best possible combination of freedom and economic and social justice. The struggle to organize, educate and improve the lot of agricultural workers provides one of the greatest opportunities toward the attainment of that goal.

It has been my experience working as a farm worker in California and Washington, and participating in the recent farm worker strikes in Delano and South Texas, that among agricultural workers there is a higher percentage of intelligent, kind, sensitive people who have not had their minds cluttered by the garbage and bullshit of capitalism than in the work force as a whole. Furthermore, these workers are potentially in a position of very great power because they produce the one product without which society unequivocally cannot survie. They produce what serves society most-but get paid and respected by society least. What better example of the completely-not partly, but 100%-inverted values of mindless, insane and corrupt capitalism?

And the system has not improved through the years from a moral point of view, as some would have us believe (i.e., the demented semantics of Ayn Rand and her "enlightened self-interest"), but worsened. When America was stolen from the Indians working the land with one's own hands was considered a noble and worthwhile occupation. But now the men who do this most necessary, natural and basic of all work are respected least. And mainly, of course, because they have been relegated unjustly to the bottom of the economic scale.

There are some who, while deploring the injustice of the situation, argue that it is not worth spending much time helping farm workers because automation is reducing their numbers and potential power to affect society for the better. (The Government has given hundreds of thousands of dollars to growers and universities to develop machines to replace men, while refusing to give farm workers even such fundamental rights as collective bargaining and unemployment insurance long enjoyed by other workers.) In the first place, even if there were only one farm worker in America, he or she should be rewarded justly for labor performed, and if not, his plight should elicit the help of all right-thinking people. In the second place, it is definitely not true that the fewer the workers the less potential for good. On the contrary, the product produced is of equal importance to society whether five or five million people produce it, and a smaller number of workers facilitates the job of organizing and makes the possibility of a powerful co-ordinated effort on the part of the workers easier to achieve.

When I wrote above about brotherly love as one of the attributes of a real Wobbly, I meant brotherly love toward one's fellow workers, toward the exploited, and toward that vast majority of present day American society who are unconscious dupes of the capitalist system. In the case of conscious, malicious parasites and exploiters, on the other hand, when brotehrly love and reason prove ineffective, whatever method necessary to cure or eliminate the disease must be used. In my opinion it is this determination and willingness to sacrifice in order to use whatever methods necessary to achieve a rational society which chiefly distinguishes a Wobbly from the average mealy-mouthed, short-sighted compromiser of the American labor movement.

That it is possible to attain limited goals for farm workers has already been demonstrated in Hawaii, Delano and South Texas. However, it should be remembered that the first great breakthrough in farm labor organizing on the mainland U.S. since the early victories of the Wobblies, the contract with the Schenley Ranch in Delano in 1966, came before the former independent union of Cesar Chavez had become part of the American Fakeration of Labor and Capital. The victory was achieved more through the work of the workers themselves, young militants of SNCC and CORE, and a handful of maverick ministers and independent idealists than through any effort of the conservative war-mongering AFL-CIO. Cesar Chavez claimed his independent union had to join the Fakeration later in order to fend off the scavenging Teamsters; whether they could have beaten off the Teamsters without this odious compromise no one can say for certain. What IS certain is that even after they had demonstrated their ability and joined the Fakeration, the National AFL-CIO forked over even less money to organize farm workers than they had back in 1959 when they set up their own agricultural workers union in Stockton under Norman Smith. And that the AFL-CIO has exerted pressures toward non-militancy, conformity and business unionism which have caused many ardent idealists to leave the Chavez group.

Still, UFWOC is one of the better and more honest organizations in the AFL-CIO, and its current boycott against Guimarra grapes should receive the help of every Wobbly. Some idealists who were against the AFL-CIO merger still remain in its ranks. The comparative merits of boring from within the AFL-CIO and remaining fiercely independent have been debated endlessly. I feel that both can be effective, depending on circumstances. But if it is a choice between compromising one's ideals overtly by joining a powerful conservative organization or articulating them openly in a smaller more idealistic organization, I say the latter choice is always the better one. One can join a phoney organization planning to bore from within, then unintentionally forget his ideals or be subtly bought off before he knows it. The dream of a better world continually must be articulated and renewed, and that is the present function of the Wobbly: to never let the worker forget for a moment the revolutionary goals of industrial democracy, justice and workers' control. One unabashed Wobbly can do more toward articulating these ideals than a thousand borers-from-within shackled by AFL-CIO bureaucracy and fear.

The big mistake is always made when someone supposedly representing the workers is first paid a salary by those workers and descends ("rises" in involuted capitalist terminology) to some other "special" status than that of a worker. Even the best-intentioned of men are not perfect and can't resist thinking of themselves-and acting accordingly-as part of an elite, once they become other than workers. The only just and rational approach is to have the workers' affairs in the hands of revolving committees of workers.

I spent a few days last fall picking apples in Yakima with George Underwood, the IWW organizer there, and some of the other old-time Wobblies, and it was a wonderful, enlightening and exhilarating experience. The growing organization there has already won a raise at one ranch after a brief walkout, and this summer promises much more significant accomplishments. George Underwood himself is an inspiring and heroic figure in the capitalist wilderness of Washington-where so many of the greatest Wobbly battles have been fought-a large, solid, kind and intelligent man whose countenance immediately reminded me of the "unabashed dreamer's eyes" of the Wobbly Jack Malloy in James Jones' "From Here to Eternity," whom many thought the most fascinating character in the book. Underwood is in the direct tradition of another organizer of the Northwest, the great Frank Little, and like Little, George's wife is part Indian.

Fellow worker Underwood has written me that the best time for Wobs or sympathizer to come to Yakima is about early July, when the fruit picking starts, at first in apricots, peaches and cherries, and later in hops, apples and other crops. The uninitiated shouldn't be frightened off by the prospect of this sort of work, as it is piecework and one can set his own pace. Pay is usually on a daily basis, but one should have enough money to support himself for at least a few days in case of unforeseen circumstances. In case you have a regular job, why not take your vacation in beautiful Washington, and combine making a little extra money with spreading the vision of the new society? For more information, write to George Underwood, P.O. Box 98902, Yakima, Washington.

* * *

I'd like to say a few words about why I became a Wobbly and why I am going to Yakima to help in the organizing this summer. To me, being a Wobbly is more than anything a state of mind (many are Wobblies without knowing it, and should be informed of the fact). It is the state of mind of a person who is a real man, who believes he is as good as every other man, who doesn't allow himself to be pushed around, manipulated or exploited by anybody, and who doesn't believe in standing idly by while his fellow humans are exploited. And this refers to exploitation by anyone: capitalists, elected politicians, labor bureaucrats or commissars. I'm a Wobbly because I believe in the perfectibility of man and the possibility of establishing a better society, and the Wobblies have the most militant tradition of any group in America's history of working toward that end. I'm a Wobbly because I'm a worker and I am for the worker first, last and always, before any workers' representative, politician or whatever. I'm a Wobbly because I believe in economic justice and equality-an equal hourly wage for all-and the Wobblies come closer to that ideal than any group I know.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

A CALL...

CONTINUED FRON PAGE 4

Why should a doctor or an engineer earn more per hour than a farm worker in this era of abundance (assuming that all education is free, as it so easily could be)? The doctor has everything going for him: a profession of his choice, the respect of his fellow man, fascinating and challenging work, a sense of serving mankind in a vital way, the mental capacity for enjoying the non-material things of life; the farm worker only the hard thankless toil of a life made doubly miserable by economic injustice and social scorn.

Centuries of wars, revolutions and violent strikes have been fought over this issue of unequal distribution of wealth, and more remain to be fought. It's about time for the absolute standards of science to be applied to the field of economics. Only when a generally accepted, unequivocal, absolute standard of an equal hourly wage is established for all work, with which there can be no quibbling or quarreling, can peace be achieved.

Last of all, I am a Wobbly because I feel that men are happiest when they live partly for themselves and partly for others. Every man should strive to leave the world a better place than he found it. Having these beliefs, no man can be happy unless he spends at least part of his time working toward their fulfillment.

Of course if one wants to jump on a bandwagon, attach himself to a going concern, the Wobblies or the campaign in Yakima aren't for him. He should go with the AFL-CIO or the OEO and become an outright supporter of the establishment, which isn't finished off yet by a long ways. The IWW has only ideals, visions and an idealistic, militant and uncompromising tradition to offer.

But a real Wobbly and a real idealist has never been concerned with considerations such as the former-with how many others already share his visions and convictions. He has been more like the despised atheist Shelley, traveling all alone to Ireland to organize the enslaved and downtrodden Irish in the cause of liberation and equality. "I-even I, weak, young, poor, as I am-will attempt to organize them-the society of peace and love. Oh, that I may be a successful apostle of this only true religion, the religion of philanthropy." His chief method was the propagation of the desire for wisdom and virtue, which should be the first message of every Wobbly. "To the force of virtue, and to that only, all government must succumb as soon as virtue prevails among the governed, for the absence of virtue is government's only excuse for existence."

Though Shelley was not overtly successful in his organizing efforts in Dublin, he certainly was more at peace with himself for the attempt, and the fact I have just quoted him is proof that the campaign was not without effect on others as well.

The effect of no effort for good is ever completely lost. It is people with this sort of realistic faith who will be in Yakima working as brothers for a better world this summer.

According to the Biblical fable, man's downfall occurred beneath an apple tre.. Perhaps that is also where one of the major chapters in his resurrection will transpire. See you in Yakima.

PROPOSES FLAG FOR WORKERS WORLD'S

Editor:

I propose a flag symbolizing solidarity of all the workers of the world, a flag that stands for peace, plenty, freedom and brotherhood.

National flags are capitalist flags and they represent war, and coercion in a system that demands workers kill each other to reduce their number; and that they be submissive to plunderers and profit takers.

Evolution and science have rendered present world capitalism obsolote, untenable and unworkable. A life of abundance to serve every need is now possible but capitalism and nationalism stand in the way of realization of the possibilities that lilie before us. Flags that foster the spirit of nationalism ought to be ignored by workers while they remain and eventually abolished; along with nationalism and every form of explotation of man by man.

The flag I propose has four stripes and four colors; red, yellow, black and white, representing the skin color of all the races of men and brings them together in one banner as a reminder that working people of all races must get together in unity to accomplish their common purpose.

I close for this time with the last stanza of Hugh Hardman's poem "Free Choice."

To be a killer is his destiny,
All cry in chorus.
And the lad whose soul revolts
Against all killing does not know
It is not true-that he can still say No,
Refuse to make a murderer's life his goal
and choosing prison, still be free.

J. T. Landis

A FARM WORKER GOES TO COLLEGE

By GEORGE URDERWOOD

It was my first contact with the academic world seriously at work on labor history and problems and I was given the best, most wonderful and warmest welcome I have ever received in my life. The occasion was the "Pacific Northwest Labor History Conference" hosted by Gonzaga University in Spokane (Wash.) on April 4.

My invitation to attend this notable conference came from Dr. William George Whittaker program director, at the suggestion of IWW Headquarters. The means to get there from Yakima were supplied me by a local fellow worker who has a steady job. (A farm worwer's stake is bound to be runnig low at this time of the year in this area.) An old timer, Pete Merich, came along.

Anyway, we got there "on the cushions," were set up to a college cafeteria lunch and taken out for dinner, and otherwise treated like visiting royalty.

A table was set up at the entrance of a large hall at the university for the IWW literature I had brought along. I was completely cleaned out of this material which included over 200 back issues of the Industrial Worker.

At the front of the hall they had hung up an IWW One Big Union pennant. The entire program was built around the IWW. Professors from many places-from as far away as New York-were there as guest speakers. Questions were fired at me by the hundreds and these I was more than happy to answer.

Papers read at this conference by the specialists in labor theory and history, and the comment and discussions, and the kind of questions I was asked to answer, impressed me with the tremendous difference between current evaluation of the IWW by serious research men and the fiction cooked up by employers and broadcast by a hostile press a generation ago.

From this meeting I came away satisfied that scholars and students can see at least in outline what the confirmed Wobbly sees clearly: that, properly organized, labor can be the architect and builder of the new society.

Two special studies in Northwest Labor History were titled "The Centralia Riot of 1919: A comment on Sources," and "Everett: A Turning Point in IWW History."

The first of these was the subject of a paper read by Dean Donald A. McPhee, School of Social and Behahavioral Sciences, California State College; the second was by Prof. Donald Barnes, Dept. of History, Eastern Washington State College.

* * *

Meanwhile back here in the Yakima valley, where we wage slaves bend our backs over asparagus rows or climb ladders like monkeys, "when the work opens up," for the daily bread,non-cooperating nature gave the ranchers a kick in the pants. The asparagus froze down to the ground and the early fruit was seriously demaged by widespread frost. The vegetables will come up again and the harvest of these will be delayed only about ten days; but, according to reports, cherries, peaches and apricots are wiped out in this area for the year. Later fruit, the appples and pears, were also damaged to some extent.

This has made John Farmer and business men very unhappy. A plute press report says "federal agencies are being alerted to possible emergency needs" of farmers because of the untimely cold weather. Already they are planning on helping John Farmer, but there is nothing said about helping workers.

Many of the migrants who specialize in the stoop labor, or who at least are not adverse to taking it on in the early part of the season, and who had already arrived here from down south, turned tail and headed back toward California.

As far as extent of employment goes, this will be one of the worst years I have ever seen here. But we will wait for further developments for a more complete report on conditions in other sections of the Northwest fruit belt as well as here in the immediate vicinity of Yakima.

There will be workers needed in the apples and pears, and in the hops and vegetables and beets. That means there will be opportunity to promote the organization of these low-paid victims of the system. We'll be working at it in the Yakima valley and in other areas of this vast Northwest empire where it still has to be demonstrated that wage workers have a right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

As a fellow worker remarked lately: "All the workers have to do is to quit fighting among themselves and they will have it made."

Note: To communicate by mail with the Yakima IWW branch, write to George Underwood, P.O. Box 2205. Zip number, is 98902.

UNION PAY IS BETTER

Texas Technological College prof., examining Bureau of Labor Statistics reports, has discovered that wages paid under labor union contracts average 18 percent more than those paid in unorganized plants.

NEW SIDELIGHTS ON IWW HISTORY

NEW SIDELIGHTS . . .

By FRED THOMPSON

Several scholarly essay on IWW history, not previously mentioned in the Industrial Worker, have been published in the last two years.

An outstanding account of the McKees Rock Strike, 1909, by John N. Ingham can be found in the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, 1966, Vol. XV 353-77. It centers on the conflict between the foreign language majority who were fighting a newly started gang piece work system, and the "Big Six," a committee formed by the hourly-rated English-speaking minority primarily to get those foreigners back to work.

The Big Six was the only group the company would talk with, and it had an influence over the strikers as it was given most of the groceries for strike relief. The foreigners after a month called on the IWW to help them hold their lines and keep on rejecting the piddling offers the Big Six brought from the company. This eventually forced the company to agree to abolish the gang piece work system and to raise the pay. Ingham says: "The IWW gave the foreigners by far the most effective organization they were to have for many decades."

The strike is of current interest as proof that where the body recognized by the "Establishment" does not satisfy the workers, they can still build the organized strength to compel better terms. This piece should be read by anyone wanting to understand McKees Rock. It draws on careful research of contemporary local, socialist and liberal press. Levinson's account of Bergoff strikebreaking, and House document "Peonage in Western Pennsylvania" (62nd Congr, 1st sess.)

In New Jersey Historical Society proceedings, 1966, Vol. 84 pp 182-195, Robt. Zieger retells the story of Paterson, 1913. One incident: when school teachers denounced the strike, children picketed the schools.

The Pacific Northwest Quarterly for April 1966 has two articles on IWW history: Norman Clark on "Everett, 1916 and After", and John M. McKlelland on Centralia, 1919.

Clark's account of Everett gives several inside views on the massacre of workers who came there aboard the Calista, Sunday morning, Nov. 5, 1916 to establish the right to speak on the streets. Examples:

"Throughout that Sunday morning, Wm. Brill, the banker, and John McChesney, Jim Hill's agent, were in their Everett office receiving reports from their spy in Seattle. By telephone they could follow every move in the Seattle IWW hall and they even heard the singing of the men as they moved away from the hall and toward the dock." (And how about a spy or two aboard the vessel?)

"The number of Wobblies who fell from the boat and were killed in the water, their bodies swept under the sea, can never be fixed with certainty. But one man on the dock, an excellent marksman, who fired with precision, later claimed that he alone accounted for at least eleven."

"Joe Irving who employed 1200 men and who had begged the Wobblies-for the welfare of Everett's children-to leave the city, even in his old age spoke freely of the Wobblies he had crippled, bloodied and beaten nearly to death."

Clark offers this key to masterclass psychology: "Their open shop fanaticism was an integral part of their value system." He mentions extensive unpublished research into the psychology of the participants by Edwin Parker.

In his article "Terror on Tower Avenue", John McClelland, editor and publisher of the Longview Daily News, tries to reconcile the conflicting accounts of what happened in Centralia, Nov. 11, 1919, when employers turned a veterans' parade into a raid, with hangman rope, on IWW lumber workers hall, and the lumber workers in accordance with their previous notice, defended the hall. He ends by citing Herb Mahler's tally of the 31 murder trials that arose out of the labor movement in the 45 years from Haymarket to Harlan, 1886-1931: in 17 trials all or most of the labor defendants were convicted; in 9 trials they were acquitted; 7 of the labor defendants were executed, and 19 sentenced to life; one, Wesley Everest, in this Centralia case, was lynched. He notes no one was ever arrested for the lynching. There is a class struggle.

The July 1966 issue of the same Pacific Northwest Quarterly carries an interesting note regarding Elizebeth Gurley Flynn during the Spokane Free Speech Fight, 1909, by Benjamin Kizer, brother of the deputy prosecutor at the time. He recalls that after finding 60 day sentences didn't scare Wobbly free speech fighters, they decided to indict some on a more severe charge, conspiracy to break a municipal ordinance, with sentences of two to three years. They indicted Gurley and a dozen men on the charge. Benjamin Kizer told the prosecutor it would be easier to win his case if he dropped Gurley from the indictment. and was told "Hell, no, she's the one we're after." Instead they dropped ten men from the charge and brought only Gurly and the local secretary, C.L. Filigno to trial. Gurly made an impasioned speech to the jury urging that if they must convict someone, let it be her, and not this much abused working man. The jury acquitted her and convicted Filigno. The prosecutor asked the jury foreman, "What in hell do you fellows mean by acquitting the most guilty one and convicting the man far less guilty?" The foreman replied: "She ain't a criminal, Fred, and you know it. If you think this jury or any jury is going to send that pretty Irish girl to jail merely for being big-hearted and idealistic, to mix with all those whores and crooks in the pen, you've got another guess coming."

In Labor History, Winter 1968, Richard Brazier, oldtime IWW organizer and songwriter, gives his recollections of how that song book started. In the spring 66 issue he gave his reminiscences of the Chicago trial 1918, an analysis of which Philip Taft had made in same publication, winter 1962.

Joseph Conlin's study of the IWW before WWI is summarized in Dissertation Abstract, 1966, (Vol 27) 1,012A.

This paper has noted a general account of IWW by Weisberg in American Heritage for June 1967, and the Doubleday 1967 book "The Wobblies" by Patrick Renshaw.

There have been recent reprints of Brissenden's IWW, and Bill Haywood's Book the latter in paperback; and University of Michigan has brought out a paperback edition of Joyce Kornbluh's large anthology "Rebel Voices."

The historians keep working on us. Roy Wortman is making a study ow IWW in Cleveland, and forthcoming books include one on Joe Hill by Briggs Smith and an account of the early years of IWW by Melvyn Dubofsky.

* * *

Bill Haywood's Book (autobiography) hard cover, new edition, may be had from IWW Headquarters; price $4.50. Joyce Kornbluh's Rebel Voices: An IWW Anthology, Ann Arbor Paperbacks edition, price $4.95 also available.

PARASITES FEED ON POVERTY

Editor:

During the past few years I have heard phony political, social and economic doctrines preached throughout the land. Facts and sound reasoning are thrown out the window, while self-appointed leaders direct the people and the country down a dead-end road.

Claiming superior knowledge and deep devotion to the cause of humanity, the mis-leaders are powered solely by greed for personal position and power, and the results they achieve are destruction and confusion. Phoniest of all the phonies are those who lead and staff the so-called War on Poverty.

The public is told that something fine is being done for the poor; and the poor are counseled to be patient and appreciative. They are not reminded that in any man's world respect is allowed people without money only when these, by action and attitude, prove they are entitled to respect, and that dignity comes automatically with intelligent effort to improve their own lot. Respect is something conferred on a person by a community. It is not given him as he is given a coat. Dignity is something he confers on himself.

Being poor, that is, lacking money, is not all there is to poverty. In our society, poverty means exclusion from meaningful participation in the affairs of any community of citizens and because of this the individual is deprived of a primary essential of complete human living. His candle has gone out or has never been lit. He needs to build a community of his own and thus assert his right and power against those who deny him full manhood status.

There are many ways people can be helped out of poverty. Unfortunately the official war on poverty makes use of few of these. The main reason is that the poor are a political football, and a way of getting high-paying jobs for bureaucrats and their friends. Politicians would be lost without the poor. On, how thankful they were when the war on poverty came along and, once again, the porkbarrel was rolled out. Allelujah!

The phonies have no respect for hard working people, least of all for the poor. Every worker who has faith in these fakers is scabbing on himself. For these people and others like them have used the poor for their own ends since civilization began. They do not want to end poverty. It's their livlihood. They love poverty.

The Editor willing, I would like to write more about this in the next isssue.

Ex-Fruit Tramp

REPULSIVE

Where the boss claims there is too much female leg exposed on the job, a wise grievance committee skirts the issue by making a counter demand-like more meat in the pay check.

A Buck A Pound For RIce

Sidney Margolis, the shopping expert, figures you pay $1 a pound when you buy Uncle Ben's Beef Flavoured Rice. He notes "beef" is printed big on the package "flavour" small, and that the stuff is oniefly beef fat and salt.

Sacred Contract

Ed Ball, millionaire boss of the scab—run Florida East Coast Ry., when he got married made the wife sign a contract to produce children. When no children showed up, he got a divorce, charging violation of contract.

DON'T MOURN . . . ORGANIZE!

By DORICE McDANIELS

The tapering candle flames and the cross at the altar lent an incongruously pious air to the down-to-earth gathering at USC's university church in Los Angeles. Local draft resisters had chosen this as one of four campus sites in greater Los Angeles that pleasant day of April third where fourteen young men handed in their draft cards. These cards were later returned to the men's respective draft boards. The resisters certainly weren't trusting the timid doves fluttering around the White House at the moment. Even if peace were to be declared in Vietnam, the draft, that indispensable arm of military might, would thrust men into future trouble spots the government chose to "liberate."

These young fellows lining up to dispose of their draft cards were seriously risking prison sentences ranging from two to five years on felony charges, and consequent grave disruption of their occupational future. As one by one they dropped their cards into the iron urn they explained to their audience of women and graybeards just why they were taking this drastic step. To quote a few.

A young man born in East Germany sounded this warning: "My people didn't resist the Establishment soon enough, or loudly enough. I'm taking action againt the state before it's too late to do some good."

A jocular lad admitted, "sometimes we have to lead a resistance movement within our own household. On the day I sat-in with arrestees on a civil rights project, I found a note from Mother on the kitchen table: "Jim, PLEASE don'tgo. This is not your fight. This morning I found another note on the kitchen table: Jim, please DON'T go. This is your war. Well, I have made the two best decisions of my life." He flamboyantly ripped his draft card and tossed it into the urn.

A student preparing to teach told us regretfully, "I have certain ideals of peace and freedom and human dignity which I had hoped one day to impart to high chool pupils in my history classes. But perhaps now, after a hitch in jail, I shall never have that chance."

A timid, frightened young man read a passage on liberty by Jefferson and concluded in words scarcely audible, "Life is a sacred trust, a gift not lightly to be snatched away. To bear arms againt my brothers in some foreign land would be violating something deep within me. I couldn't." He was too deeply moved to continue.

Another rebel declared with easy bravado, "The state cannot thrust a gun in my hand and command me to kill. No law can make a murderer of me. When I get ritd of my draft card I become a free man, free to work for a world with a beautiful blue sky overhead, rather than an ugly mushroom-shaped cloud hanging over it."

Said another, "Sure, I'm scared of going to jail. If I hadn't been so scared for so long, I wouldn't have put off this action until now. But then, I'll always have something to be afraid of as I go through life. I'll just have to learn to face up to it. So here goes."

* * *

It was a macabre twist of fate that only next day the Nobel laureate of peace was murdered. That militant moderate, that controversial middle-of-the-roader steering his stormy course between black power and white supremacy, had just launched his movement upon a new drive to win economic rights for the lowliest of his people. Unlike the dilettantes of the civil rights movement who insisted upon rising above the working class, Doctor Martin Luther King proposed to elevate the standards and wage of manual labor. Don't leave your essential jobs as garbage collectors, he told his men. Strike for a dignified wage.

To be sure, Doctor King didn't grasp the radical economic fundamentals of labor organization or realize just what he was up against when he demanded improved working conditions for garbage collectors. But we must give him credit for encompassing racial equality, international peace, and economic justice in his broadly-based program.

The dark-skinned world lost an outstanding leader. But throughout all the rock-tossing rage of young rioters and the tears of mourners one truth remains clear. Much solid work remains to be done. Many more young men must resist the draft, struggle for racial dignity and equality, and organize to win job rights before that dream of King, and of you and me, will come to reality. We say to our fellow workers, black and white: "Don't mourn organize."

For Non-citizens, It's Illegal to Scab

The law under which Mexican farm workers are permitted to immigrate to the United States, for a day or a season, specifies that they may not accept jobs where there is a cerified strike going on.

So when a "green carder" (Mexican wage slave with a green temporary residence permit) is caught scabbing, he pretends to be a citizen exercising his right to scab. According to reports from down in the border states, employers and sometimes the Border Patrol help the scabbing green carder put over the deception. A few have been sent back to the homeland a few have been arrested after they refused orders to return.

At last account, employers were trying get the scabbing prohibition lifted.

'Hell of a Way To Run a Railroad

It seems that more than in any other industry, rail management runs its business with the aid of injunctions against the work force. In April, a restraining order was issued in Chicago against the BRT prohibiting a strike against the Illinois Central "pending a U. S. District Court hearing on a preliminary injunction motion." In dispute are local issues including vacation pay and assignments.

In Louisville, a restraining order was lifted in Federal District Court there. But the BRT officials say they have no intention to call the strike against the Louisville & Nashville Ry., even though the union is now free to strike. The L & N has appealed the decision of the court.

Some workers are saying it's a hell of a way to run a union. Others are thinking that it might be better if the employing class declared union action a conspiracy, as in the days of long ago, than to have strikes continuously prevented either by court action or union officials' decision. Then the issues in Boss v. Labor would always be clear.

Jobs For Rumormen

A Wayne County (Mich). Rumo Control Center was established recently in an effort to combat the rumor problem in suburbs around Detroit. The Center is located on Henry Ruff Rd., Westland, and is staffed 24 hours a day to answer inquiries from citizens disturbed by reports of pending riots or other civil disorder.

"All kinds of wild rumors and exaggerations, most of which have no basis in fact are circulating in the etropolitan area due to the tension which, unfortunately, has resulted from last summer's civil disturbance", said one of the county officials responsible for the new office.

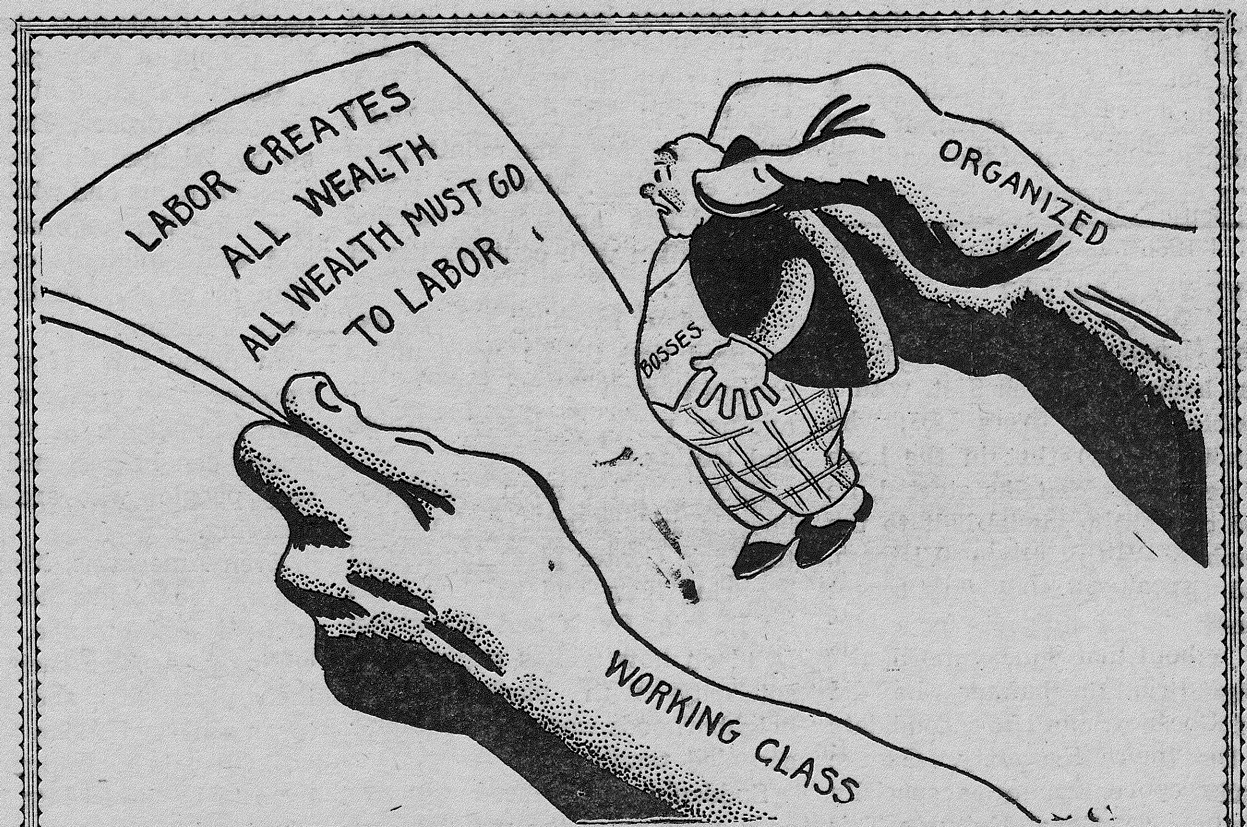
According to Detroit Labor News, the County Rumor Control Center will coordinate its activities with the Detroit Rumor Control Center established earlier by the mayor of the city.

County employes, civic organizations and the news media have been asked to report all rumors. No mistake about it, county and city officials in the Detroit area grow jittery as another hot summer approaches. They want to know what's brewing in the slum jungles.

On the other hand, it seems to a long-time dweller in the "jungle" that they have set up a pretty good system for picking up any bit of idle boasting and starting it on its merry way as a full-fledged rumor merely by "investigating" it.

30

After 881 months of fighting, 15,265 U. S. soldiers have died in Vietnam.



Heart of proletarian...

CONTINUED FRON PAGE 1

taken to assure continued control of Chicago was revealed, ironically, as a result of a meeting of the New Left Forum last August, where the topic was police brutality against westside ghetto residents. Two of the evening's speakers, it was discovered later, were members of the Chicago Police Department. One of them, a thief as well as a cop, ran off with the evening's collection, $27.

MEANWHILE BACK IN SAIGON . . .

What happens in Chicago, of course, is closely tied to the situation of the country as a whole. By the start of the new year it was already obvious that America was fighting a two-front war-one war in Asia, one at home in it own cities-and was in grave trouble on both fronts.

The power of the NLF's Lunar New Year offensive made it abundantly clear that Johnson was hung up on the horns of a Vietnam dilemma: Win or get out!

Withdrawal from Vietnam, however, is almost unthinkable to the powerful economic and military forces for whom Jhonson is the frontman. As they see it, Vietnam is an important but incidental part of a larger conflict-a life and death struggle to bring southeast Asia (half the world's population) firmly into an economic intertexture dominated by and compatible with U.S. capitalism.

But, further escalation of the war, in view of urban unrest and mounting anti-war sentiment, seemed equally unthinkable.

A televised showdown between Dean Rusk and Sen. J.W. Fulbright in mid-March revealed that the U.S. Senate, weak from collaboration, was now powerless to block escalation, in the Johnson regime chose to go that route.

The scene then briefly shifted back to Chicago when a series of mysterious fires struck downtown department stores, March 29. A sign of things to come, it was quickly pushed out of the headlines by a bigger event.

FIVE-STAR MAYOR

The Battle of the Homefront was launched, March 31st, with a double-whammy from LBJ, who announced (a) that in the hope of getting peace talks started, he had ordered a partial halt to the bombing of northern Vietnam, and, (b) that he would "not accept nomination of my party for another term as your president." (Significantly, parhaps, he did not say he woudn't be a candidate of the Republican party, George Wallace's party, or a specially created "National Unity in This Time of Dire Peril" party.)

The next day, April Fool's Day, Johnson flew to Chicago, where he consulted in private with Mayor Daley. The subject of their meeting was not revealed, but I suspect that the following were points on the agenda:

First, Johnson told the Mayor that the "peace" move was a stall intended to freeze the situation in Vietnam for a few weeks while a political blitzkrieg was being conducted against "divisive" elements within the U.S.-in reality, a put down of the American people.

Second, Johnson told Daley, hard-nosed master of urban power-politics, that he was to head the homefront confrontation, and that Chicago was selected as the initial point of impact.

(History will most certainly reveal that Johnson erred in delegating so much power to this mayor of Napoleonic construction and Caesarian ambition. LBJ, who had entered the room as the most powerful political figure in America, left it as the second most powerful-but he had no alternative. He needed Daley.)

On the afternoon of Thursday, April 4th, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., joined Ngo Dinh Diem, John F. Kennedy, and Malcolm X as figures whose abrupt deaths oddly coincided with sharp turns in U.S. foreign or domestic policy.

EVENTS IN CHICAGO

A significant train of events in Chicago followed the assassination of King.

By Friday afternoon, units of the Illinois National Guard, which had been stripped of its top Negro officers in March, were already in the city.

Early that evening, white liberals and radicals on the northside of town went to one of the city's armories to talk with troops. They urged them to avoid wanton killing, and asked them why they should be risking their own lives to defend the property of ghetto profiteers.

There was burning and looting on the westside that night, but it was far from the orgy of fire, blood and destruction that Chicagoans, for some months, had been expecting. Moreover, police and soldiers apparently handled the situation with cautious use of firepower.

Saturday morning Daley announced that things were under control-though there was to be another night of lesser burning and looting.

Shortly after noon Saturday, liberals and radicals gathered at the Civic Center plaza for a vigil honoring King and to hear talks by Rennie Davis and Staughton Lynd on how whites might show solidarity with blacks, whose neighborhoods were now military-occupied territory.

Suddenly, stone-faced Chicago cops surrounded the meeting and its leaders were told that it was illegal to hold this kind of a meeting in the plaza. Most of the group then left the plaza and marched to an armory, where they hoped to distribute leaflets and talk to the troops, as some of them had done, without incident, the night before.

In this case, however, the police accompanied the whites, escorted them into a cul-de-sac, then joined bayonet-wielding soldiers in attacking the marchers.

A further illuminating event took place Tuesday, April 9. Using the allged danger from white radicals (who were holding another vigil some distance away and with official permission) as a pretext, the Mayor stationed 600 armed federal troops in the downtown area, where they would be seen by thousands of the city's non-black inhabitants.

It was an uncalled for show of force, since the rioting had ceased and since the meeting of liberals and radicals, observed by some 500 policemen, was no possible threat to the downtown business district.

DALEY'S HARDENING LINE

The only purpose of such an act could be to blacken the image (an apt metaphor) of these (dangerous) radical-liberals in the eyes of Chicago's working people.

A few days later, Chicagoans, who were busy congratulating themselves that the racial disturbances had been contained, were shocked and dumbfounded by an incendiary statement from the Mayor.

Daley, who usually says exactly what he means, publicly rebuked his police superintendent for softness in dealing with the ghetto disturbances. Shoot to kill arsonists, shoot to "maim and cripple" looters, mace the children, he ordered the police.

This edict, while it appears to fly in the face of recent urban experience, the Kerner Commission report, and the advice of federal agencies, makes sense to Daley. It clearly reflects the rapidly hardening line against the people of Chicago.

Under the guise of maintaining "law and order", Daley-cheered on by frightened lower middle class elements and white workers-is setting the stage so that black and white militants can be dealt with as harshly as though they were Vietcong.

In doing this, of course, the purpose is to create a climate of fear and blame in which tight reigns can be fastened upon the very people who are donig the cheering.

Even Americans, it seems, who are not the world's most politically sophisticated people, will not willingly sacrifice their freedoms, their prosperity, and their sons to an enlarged Asian war, whose goals they do not understand. They have to be duped into it. Anyone who doubts that this can happen should consider the following:

The rulers of America who, for the past 20 years and, in particular, for the past six years, have afflicted the people of Vietnam-the men, the women and the children-with fire, explosives and poison chemicals, who have put them urder the rule of traitorous parasites, mutilated their culture, and who rigged a phony national election . . . these American rulers can and will do the same to the American people. If they are allowed to get away with it.

All that is lacking now is an incident to provide the excuse. Such an incident, however, can backfire, if the people understand what the game is.

Canada Notes

TORONTO, Ont.— Warn anybody who's thinking of coming up that the job situation in Canada is not the best in the world. Especially for guys like me with some University but no B. A.

Bosses want either nothing beyond highschool or a degree. They figure (lord knows why, but you know bosses) that a guy

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will sooner or later quit and go back to sochool on 'em.—B. Ross Ashley.

* * *

VANCOUVER, B. C.— Compulsory arbitration looms up here as a distinct possibility. Top labor officials here have promised that "full resources of unions would be mobilized the first time it is ordered. President of the B. C. Federation told a tense rally of more than two thousand workers that labor's united strength would be used to defeat such arbitration machinery authorized by pending legislation.— McAndrew.

* * *

PORT ARTHUR, Ont. It's been a tough winter with little work going on. Now, as always in the spring, bush slaves and construction workers look for improvement in the situation.— Murto.

* * *

TORONTO.— April 16, 12,000 Ford workers here went on strike for the third time in a bid to gain parity with employes of the company in the States.

Earlier this year, the UAW reached agreement with General Motors Ltd. of Canada after a 17-day strike, and with Chrysler after a 9-day strike.

Demand for wage parity with Coast lumber workers still remains an issue with British Columbia wood workers of the interior.

PHILATELIC NEWS

A new 6-cent U.S. postage stamps that shows a policeman and a little boy walking hand-in-hand, will be issued May 17 during Police Week. Since the kid doesn't have blood stains on him, we assume he was maced. (RP)